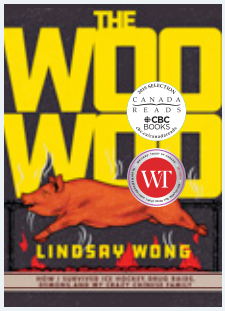
# arsenal pulp press

FALL 2020

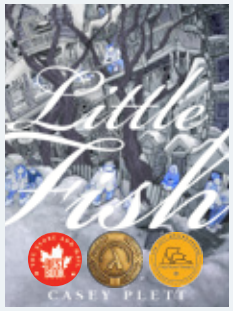
## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BACKLIST

PAGE 24, ISBN 978-1-55152-736-9




CANADA READS FINALIST

PAGE 16, ISBN 978-1-55152-720-8




AMAZON CANADA FIRST NOVEL AWARD WINNER

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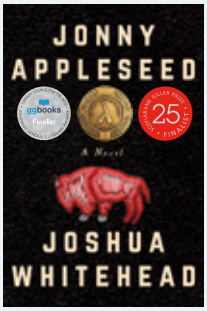


LAMBDA LITERARY AWARD WINNER

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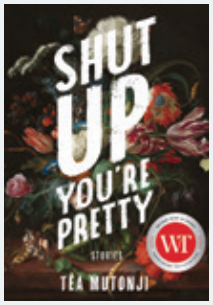


ROGERS WRITERS' TRUST FICTION PRIZE FINALIST

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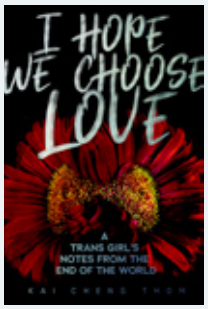
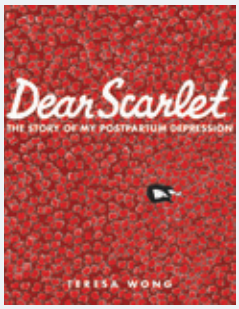



ALA STONEWALL HONOR BOOK

PAGE 18, ISBN 978-1-55152-801-4

PAGE 25, ISBN 978-1-55152-781-9

PAGE 19, ISBN 978-1-55152-765-9

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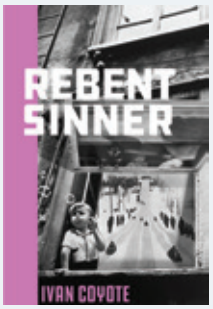


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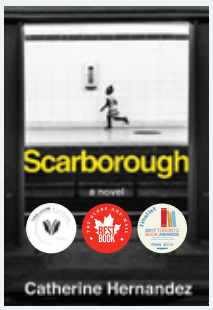


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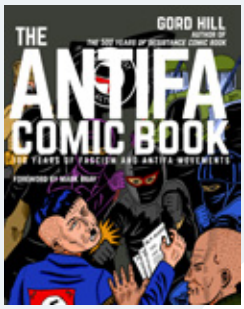
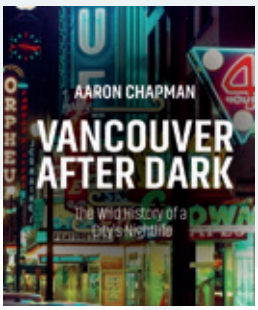



PAGE 24, ISBN 978-1-55152-783-3

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Arsenal Pulp Press acknowledges the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and səl̓ilwətaʔɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations, custodians of the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories where our office is located. We pay respect to their histories, traditions, and continuous living cultures and commit to accountability, respectful relations, and friendship.

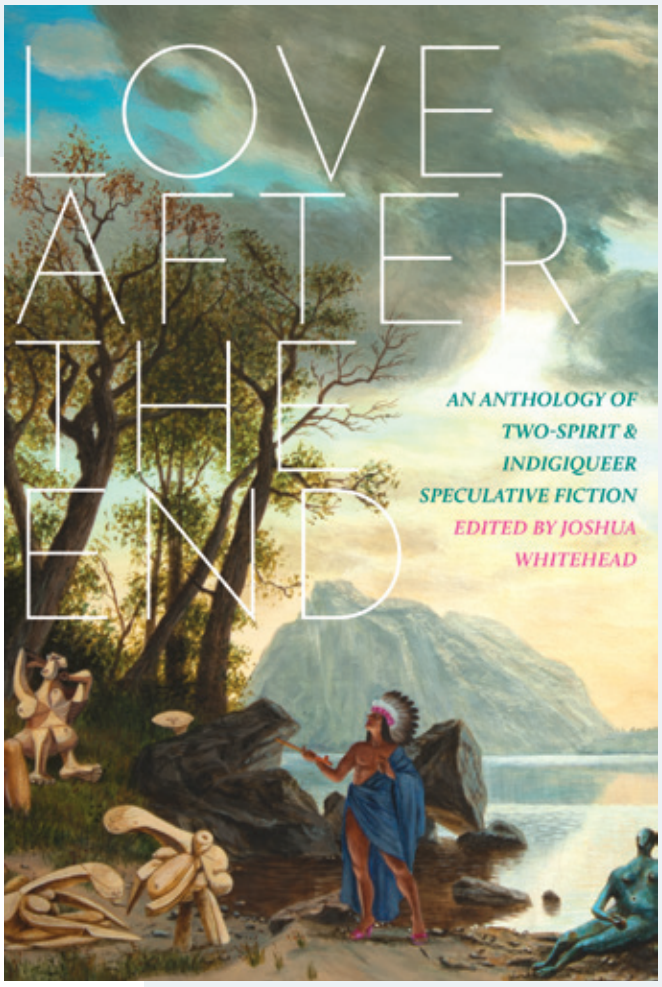
arsenalpulp.com

NEW RELEASE

# Love after the End

## An Anthology of Two-Spirit and Indigiqueer Speculative Fiction

**JOSHUA WHITEHEAD, ED.**




**A bold and breathtaking anthology of queer Indigenous speculative fiction, edited by the author of Jonny Appleseed.**

This exciting and groundbreaking fiction anthology showcases a number of new and emerging 2SQ (Two-Spirit and queer) Indigenous writers from across Turtle Island. These visionary authors show how queer Indigenous communities can bloom and thrive through utopian narratives that detail the vivacity and strength of 2SQness throughout its plight in the maw of settler colonialism's histories.

Here, readers will discover bioengineered AI rats, transplanted trees in space, the rise of a 2SQ resistance camp, a primer on how to survive Indigiqueerly, virtual reality applications, mother ships at sea, and the very bending of space-time continuums queered through NDN time. *Love after the End* demonstrates the imaginatively queer Two-Spirit futurisms we have all been dreaming of since 1492.

Contributors include Nathan Adler, Darcie Little Badger, Gabriel Castilloux Calderón, Adam Garnet Jones, Mari Kurisato, Kai Minosh Pyle, David Alexander Robertson, jaye simpson, and Nazbah Tom.

**JOSHUA WHITEHEAD** is an Oji-nêhiyaw, Two-Spirit member of Peguis First Nation (Treaty 1) in manitowapow. He is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Calgary and the author of the poetry collection *full-metal indigiqueer* (Talonbooks) and novel *Jonny Appleseed* (page 16), which won a Lambda Literary Award, was shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction and the Firecracker Award for Fiction, and was longlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize.

ISBN 978-1-55152-811-3
E-ISBN 978-1-55152-812-0
6 X 9 | 224 PP | PAPERBACK
$21.95 CAN / $18.95 USA

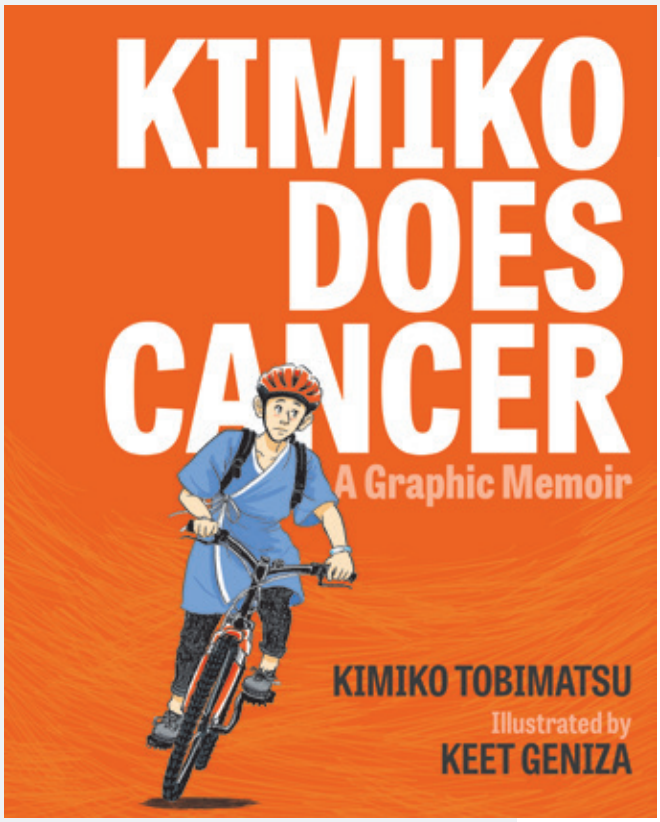
FICTION (LGBTQ) / SCIENCE FICTION / ANTHOLOGIES
FIC068000 / FIC059000 / FIC003000 / FIC028000
PUB MONTH: SEPTEMBER

NEW RELEASE

# Kimiko Does Cancer

## A Graphic Memoir

**TEXT BY KIMIKO TOBIMATSU**
**ILLUSTRATIONS BY KEET GENIZA**



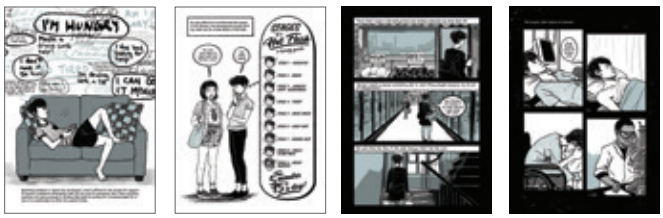

**A moving and honest graphic memoir about the unexpected cancer journey of a young, queer, mixed-race woman.**

At the age of twenty-five, Kimiko Tobimatsu was a young, queer, mixed-race woman with no history of health problems whose world was turned upside down when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. In an instant, she became immersed in a new and complicated life of endless appointments, evaluations, and treatments, and difficult conversations with her partner and parents. Kimiko knew that this wasn't what being twenty-five was supposed to be like ... but then, she didn't have a choice.

With tender illustrations by Keet Geniza, *Kimiko Does Cancer* is a graphic memoir that upends the traditional cancer narrative from a young woman's perspective, confronting issues such as dating while in menopause, navigating work and treatment, and talking to well-meaning friends, health care professionals, and other cancer survivors with viewpoints different from her own. Not one for pink ribbons or runs for the cure, Kimiko seeks connection within the cancer community while also critiquing the mainstream cancer experience.

Honest and poignant, *Kimiko Does Cancer* is about finding one's own way out of a health crisis.

Two-colour throughout.




**KIMIKO TOBIMATSU** is an employment and human rights lawyer by day. *Kimiko Does Cancer*, based on her own experience, is her first book. She lives in Toronto.
***kimikodoescancer.com***

**KEET GENIZA** is a Filipinx Canadian illustrator and comic artist. Born and raised in Manila, she moved to Toronto in 2006 and has since immersed herself in zines and comics as a way to document her struggles as a queer immigrant woman of colour. *Kimiko Does Cancer* is her first book. She lives in Toronto.

ISBN 978-1-55152-819-9
9 781551 528199

COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS / GRAPHIC MEDICINE / LGBTQ STUDIES / HEALTH
CGN009000 / CGN008000 / CGN007010 / HEA039030
PUB MONTH: OCTOBER

ISBN 978-1-55152-819-9
E-ISBN 978-1-55152-820-5
8 X 10 | 96 PP | PAPERBACK
$19.95 CAN / $16.95 USA
TWO-COLOUR THROUGHOUT

NEW RELEASE

# Our Work Is Everywhere

## An Illustrated Oral History of Queer and Trans Resistance

**SYAN ROSE**
**FOREWORD BY LEAH LAKSHMI PIEPZNA-SAMARASINHA**

### A visually stunning graphic non-fiction book on queer and trans resistance.

Over the past ten years, we have witnessed the rise of queer and trans communities that have defied and challenged those who have historically opposed them. Through bold, symbolic imagery and surrealist, overlapping landscapes, queer illustrator and curator Syan Rose shines a light on the faces and voices of these diverse, amorphous, messy, real, and imagined queer and trans communities.

In their own words, queer and trans organizers, artists, healers, comrades, and leaders speak honestly and authentically about their own experiences with power, love, pain, and magic to create a textured and nuanced portrait of queer and trans realities in America. The many themes include Black femme mental health, Pacific Islander authorship, fat queer performance art, disability and health care practice, sex worker activism, and much more. Accompanying the narratives are Rose's startling and sinuous images that brings these leaders' words to visual life.

*Our Work Is Everywhere* is a graphic non-fiction book that underscores the brilliance and passion of queer and trans resistance.

**Includes a foreword by Lambda Literary Award–winning author and activist Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha, author of *Care Work: Dreaming Disability Justice*.**

Full-colour throughout.

**SYAN ROSE** is an illustrator and comic artist whose work plays with both surrealist and representational imagery to approach topics of personal history, politics, accountability, and healing. She's been published in *Bitch*, *Slate*, *Gay Magazine*, *Truthout*, and *Autostraddle*, and has self-produced many comics and zines.
***syanrose.com***

**LEAH LAKSHMI PIEPZNA-SAMARASINHA** (FOREWORD) is a queer disabled femme writer and performer of Burgher/Tamil Sri Lankan and Irish/Roma ascent. Her most recent titles are the non-fiction book *Care Work: Dreaming Disability Justice* (page 22) and the poetry book *Tonguebreaker* (page 25). She is also co-editor of *Beyond Survival: Strategies and Stories from the Transformative Justice Movement*. Her memoir *Dirty River* (page 20) was a finalist for a Lambda Literary Award and a Publishing Triangle Award.
***brownstargirl.org***


ISBN 978-1-55152-815-1
E-ISBN 978-1-55152-816-8
9 X 12 | 72 PP | PAPERBACK
$19.95 CAN / $16.95 USA
FULL-COLOUR THROUGHOUT
COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS / LGBTQ+ / SOCIAL SCIENCE
CGN009000 / CGN008000 / SOC064000 / SOC017000
PUB MONTH: OCTOBER

NEW RELEASE

# The Name I Call Myself

**TEXT BY HASAN NAMIR**
**ILLUSTRATIONS BY CATHRYN JOHN**

**HASAN NAMIR** is the author of the Lambda Literary Award–winning novel *God in Pink* (page 21) and the poetry book *War/Torn* (Book*hug). Born and raised in Iraq, he lives in Vancouver with his partner and their newborn.

**CATHRYN JOHN** is an illustrator and designer with a passion for social equity and the environment. Her practice includes a range of mediums from acrylic painting to woodworking. Cathryn is an international award-winning designer for "The Plant Project," which works to improve people's relationships with plants.

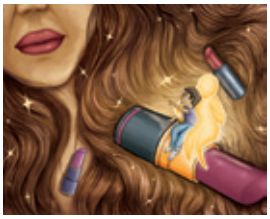
**A sweet and moving picture book depicting Ari's gender journey from childhood to adolescence in order to discover who they really are.**

Meet Ari, a young person who doesn't like to be called by their birth name Edward: "When I think of the name Edward, I imagine old kings who snore a lot." Throughout this beautiful and engaging picture book, we watch Ari grow up before our very eyes as they navigate the ins and outs of their gender identity; we see how, as a child, they prefer dolls and princess movies, and want to grow out their hair, though their father insists on cutting it short, because that's "what a boy looks like." At ten, they play hockey but wish they could try on their mother's dresses; at fifteen, they shave their body, hoping to have smooth skin like the girls. At sixteen, they want to run away, especially from their father, who insists, "You're a boy, so you have to act like one." Who will Ari become?

Moving from age six to adolescence, *The Name I Call Myself* touchingly depicts Edward's tender, solitary gender journey to Ari: a new life distinguished and made meaningful by self-acceptance and unconditional love.

**Ages 5 to 9.**

Full-colour throughout.



ISBN 978-1-55152-809-0

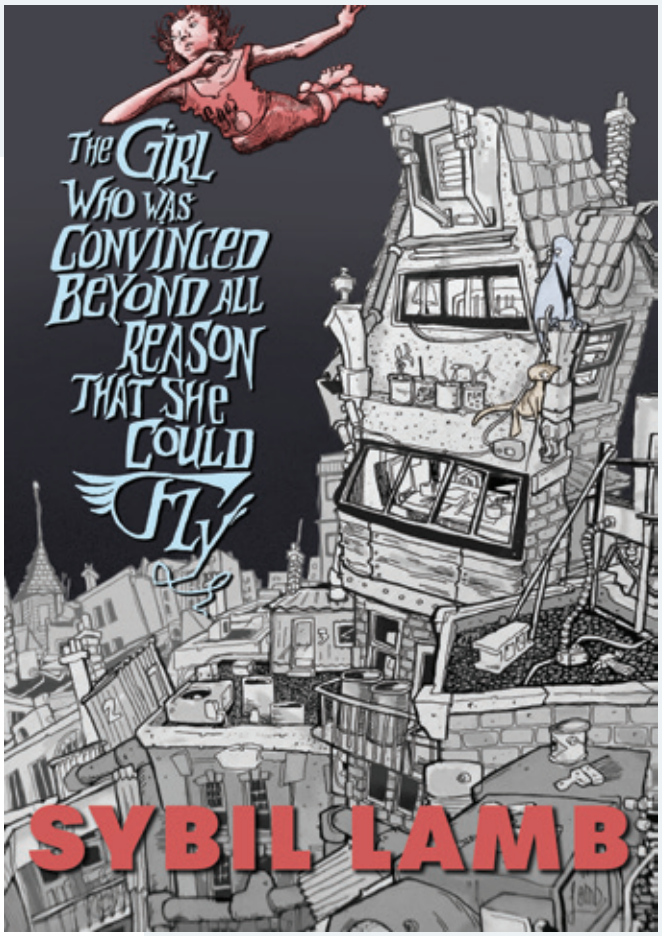
CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS (AGES 5–9) / LGBTQ+
JUV060000 / JUV039140 / JUV013090
PUB MONTH: OCTOBER

ISBN 978-1-55152-809-0
E-ISBN 978-1-55152-810-6
10 X 8 | 40 PP | PAPER OVER BOARD
$19.95 CAN / $17.95 USA
FULL-COLOUR THROUGHOUT

NEW RELEASE

# The Girl Who Was Convinced beyond All Reason That She Could Fly

**SYBIL LAMB**




## A visionary young-adult illustrated novel about Eggs, a homeless girl who knows how to fly.

In a rusted unnamed city full of five-dollar hotels and flea markets, a young homeless girl named Eggs is trying to make her way in the world. She's shy and bold at the same time, and wary of strangers, but she is convinced beyond all reason that she can fly.

And fly she does, from rooftop to rooftop, from chimneys to phone wires; she scurries up the sides of buildings and sneaks into secret lairs. Eggs is a loner, but she makes two friends: Grack, who sells 100 different kinds of hot dog from his bicycle cart, and Splendid Wren, a punk rocker whose open window Eggs came crashing through one night. Both Grack and Splendid Wren try their best to protect her, but Eggs meets her match when on a cold night she swoops onto a rooftop and steals a warm jacket belonging to Robin, a neighbourhood baddie with anger management issues. Can Eggs elude his wrathful revenge?

Beguiling and otherworldly, *The Girl Who Was Convinced beyond All Reason That She Could Fly* is a fevered dream about a young girl's flights of fancy in order to survive, and to thrive.

**Ages 14 and up.**

Full-colour throughout.

**SYBIL LAMB**'s writing and art have appeared in books, magazines, comix, alleys, and tattoos. Her novel *I've Got a Time Bomb* was published by Topside Press.
***lilybutterland.com***

ISBN 978-1-55152-817-5
E-ISBN 978-1-55152-818-2
7 X 10 | 80 PP | PAPERBACK
$18.95 CAN / $16.95 USA
FULL-COLOUR THROUGHOUT

YOUNG ADULT FICTION (14 AND UP)
YAF022000 / YAF019010 / YAF058220
PUB MONTH: OCTOBER

NEW RELEASE

# God Loves Hair

## Tenth Anniversary Edition

**TEXT BY VIVEK SHRAYA**
**ILLUSTRATIONS BY JULIANA NEUFELD**
**FOREWORD BY CHERIE DIMALINE**

**VIVEK SHRAYA**'s previous books include *She of the Mountains* (page 17), *even this page is white* (page 25), *Death Threat* (page 19), *The Boy & the Bindi* (page 26), *I'm Afraid of Men*, and *The Subtweet*. She is the editor of the Arsenal Pulp Press imprint VS. Books, dedicated to work by young Black or Indigenous writers, or writers of colour. Originally from Edmonton, she lives in Calgary, where she is an assistant professor in the University of Calgary's Department of English.

**JULIANA NEUFELD** is an award-winning illustrator and mixed media artist living in Toronto. Her work has been inspired by the whimsy of children's illustration, journal art, and an obsession with textiles. Her work can be found in books, album covers, and nooks and crannies throughout the internet.

**CHERIE DIMALINE** (FOREWORD) is a member of the Georgian Bay Métis community. Her 2017 book *The Marrow Thieves* won the Governor General's Award and the Kirkus Prize for Young Readers. Her most recent book is *Empire of Wild*.

**A tenth-anniversary edition of Vivek Shraya's first book: a YA story collection that celebrates racial, gender, and religious diversity.**

In 2010, Vivek Shraya self-published *God Loves Hair*, her first book; in the ten years since, Vivek has published six more titles, including a novel, poetry collection, graphic novel, and children's picture book, while also working as an artist, musician, and academic.

*God Loves Hair* is a collection of short stories that follows a tender, intelligent, and curious child who navigates the complex realms of gender creativity, queerness, brownness, religion, and belonging. This tenth-anniversary edition, published in hardcover for the first time, includes a foreword by award-winning YA writer Cherie Dimaline (*The Marrow Thieves*), as well as a new preface, story, and illustrations.

Told with the poignant insight and honesty that only the voice of a young narrator can convey, *God Loves Hair* is a moving and ultimately joyous portrait of the resiliency of youth.

**Ages 12 and up.**

Full-colour throughout.

ISBN 978-1-55152-813-7

YOUNG ADULT FICTION (12 AND UP)
YAF031000 / YAF046130 / YAF058220
PUB MONTH: OCTOBER

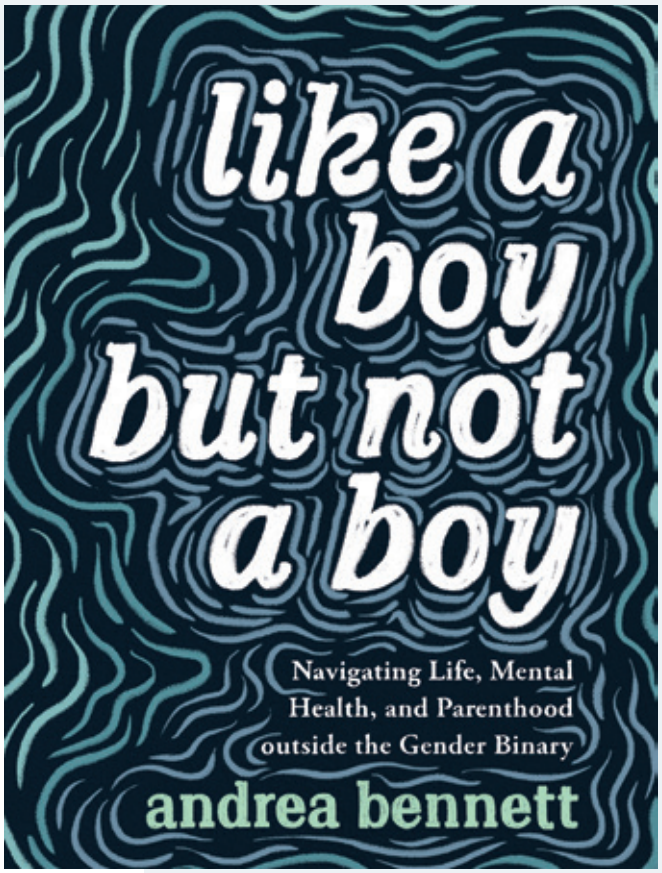
ISBN 978-1-55152-813-7
E-ISBN 978-1-55152-814-4
8 X 5 | 128 PP | PAPER OVER BOARD
$24.95 CAN / $21.95 USA
FULL-COLOUR THROUGHOUT

NEW RELEASE

# Like a Boy but Not a Boy

## Navigating Life, Mental Health, and Parenthood outside the Gender Binary

**andrea bennett**




**A revelatory book about gender, mental illness, parenting, mortality, bike mechanics, work, class, and the task of living in a body.**

Inquisitive and expansive, *Like a Boy but Not a Boy* explores author andrea bennett's experiences with gender expectations, being a non-binary parent, and the sometimes funny and sometimes difficult task of living in a body. The book's fourteen essays also delve incisively into the interconnected themes of mental illness, mortality, creative work, class, and bike mechanics (apparently you can learn a lot about yourself through trueing a wheel).

In "Tomboy," andrea articulates what it means to live in a gender in-between space, and why one might be necessary; "37 Jobs 21 Houses" interrogates the notion that the key to a better life is working hard and moving house. And interspersed throughout the book is "Everyone Is Sober and No One Can Drive," sixteen stories about queer millennials who grew up and came of age in small Canadian communities.

With the same poignant spirit as Ivan Coyote's *Tomboy Survival Guide*, *Like a Boy* addresses the struggle to find acceptance, and to accept oneself; and how one can find one's place while learning to make space for others. The book also wonders what it means to be an atheist and search for faith that everything will be okay; what it means to learn how to love life even as you obsess over its brevity; and how to give birth, to bring new life, at what feels like the end of the world.

With thoughtfulness and acute observation, andrea bennett reveals intimate truths about the human experience, whether one is outside the gender binary or not.

**andrea bennett** is a National Magazine Award–winning writer and editor and the author of one book of poetry (*Canoodlers*, Nightwood Editions) and two travel guides (Montreal and Quebec City, Moon Guides). *Like a Boy but Not a Boy* is andrea's first book of essays.
***andreabennett.ca***

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$21.95 CAN / $18.95 USA

LGBTQ+ STUDIES / BIOGRAPHY & MEMOIR
SOC064020 / BIO031000 / SOC064000
PUB MONTH: OCTOBER

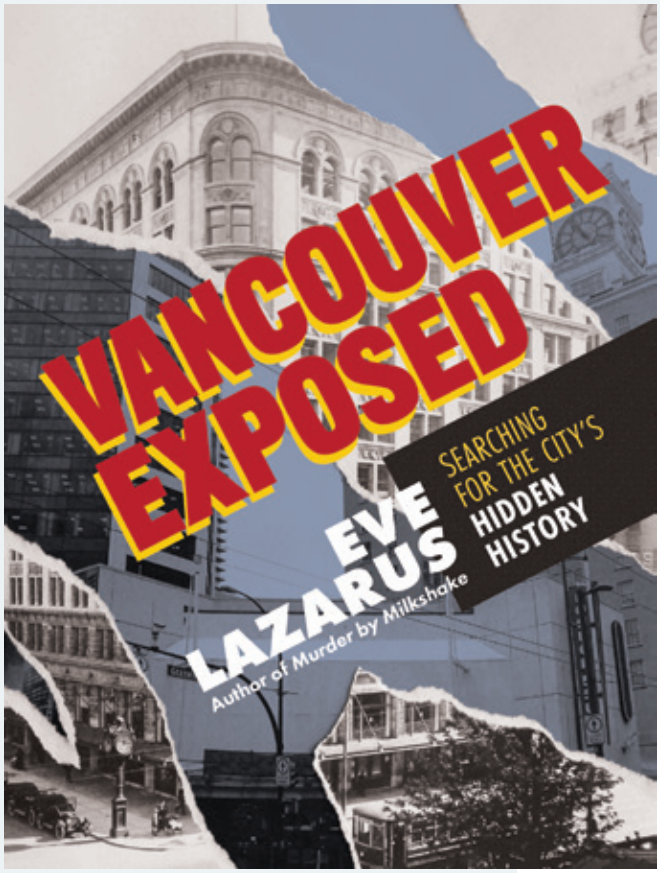
ISBN 978-1-55152-821-2
9 781551 528212

NEW RELEASE

# Vancouver Exposed

## Searching for the City's Hidden History

**EVE LAZARUS**




**EVE LAZARUS** is a journalist, blogger, podcaster, and author with a passion for unconventional history. She has written seven books of non-fiction including the BC bestsellers *Murder by Milkshake* (page 24); *Blood, Sweat, and Fear*; *Cold Case Vancouver* (page 22); and *Sensational Vancouver.* ***evelazarus.com***

**Eve Lazarus peels back the layers of Vancouver's history to reveal its surprising hidden depths.**

As the author of such BC bestsellers as *Cold Case Vancouver*, *Murder by Milkshake*, and *Sensational Vancouver*, Australian-born Eve Lazarus has become adept at combining her well-honed investigative skills with an abiding love for her adopted city. These qualities are on full display in her latest book, an exploration of Vancouver's hidden past through the city's neighbourhoods, institutions, people, and events.

*Vancouver Exposed* is a nostalgic romp through the city's past, from buried houses to nudist camps, from belly-flop contests to eccentric museums. Featuring historic black-and-white and colour photographs throughout, the book reveals the true heart of the city: one that is endlessly evolving and always full of surprises.

With equal parts humour and pathos, *Vancouver Exposed* is a vividly entertaining and informative book that pays homage to the Vancouver you never knew existed.

Full-colour throughout.

ISBN 978-1-55152-829-8

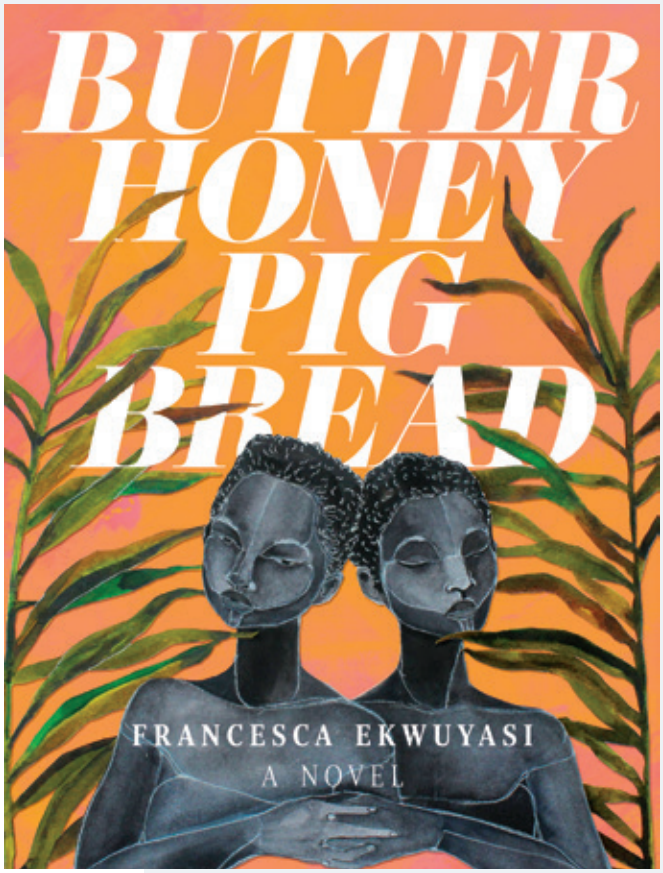
REGIONAL HISTORY (BC) / TRAVEL (CANADA)
HIS006020 / HIS006000 / TRV006050
PUB MONTH: OCTOBER
(USA: APRIL 2021)

ISBN 978-1-55152-829-8
E-ISBN 978-1-55152-830-4
8.5 X 10 | 240 PP | PAPERBACK
$32.95 CAN / $28.95 USA
FULL-COLOUR THROUGHOUT

NEW RELEASE

# Butter Honey Pig Bread

**FRANCESCA EKWUYASI**




## An intergenerational saga about three Nigerian women: a novel about food, family, and forgiveness.

Spanning three continents, *Butter Honey Pig Bread* tells the interconnected stories of three Nigerian women: Kambirinachi and her twin daughters, Kehinde and Taiye. Kambirinachi believes that she is an Ogbanje, or an Abiku, a non-human spirit that plagues a family with misfortune by being born and then dying in childhood to cause a human mother misery. She has made the unnatural choice of staying alive to love her human family but lives in fear of the consequences of her decision.

Kambirinachi and her daughters become estranged from one another because of a trauma that Kehinde experiences in childhood, which leads her to move away and cut off all contact. She ultimately finds her path as an artist and seeks to raise a family of her own, despite her fear that she won't be a good mother. Meanwhile, Taiye is plagued by guilt for what her sister suffered and also runs away, attempting to fill the void of that lost relationship with casual flings with women. She eventually discovers a way out of her stifling loneliness through a passion for food and cooking.

But now, after more than a decade of living apart, Taiye and Kehinde have returned home to Lagos. It is here that the three women must face each other and address the wounds of the past if they are to reconcile and move forward.

For readers of African diasporic authors such as Teju Cole and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, *Butter Honey Pig Bread* is a story of choices and their consequences, of motherhood, of the malleable line between the spirit and the mind, of finding new homes and mending old ones, of voracious appetites, of queer love, of friendship, faith, and above all, family.

**FRANCESCA EKWUYASI** is a writer and filmmaker originally from Lagos, Nigeria. Her work explores themes of faith, family, queerness, consumption, loneliness, and belonging. Her work has been published in *Winter Tangerine Review*, *Brittle Paper*, *Transition Magazine*, the *Malahat Review*, *Visual Art News*, *Vol. 1 Brooklyn*, and *GUTS* magazine. Her story "Orun Is Heaven" was longlisted for the 2019 Journey Prize.
***ekwuyasi.com***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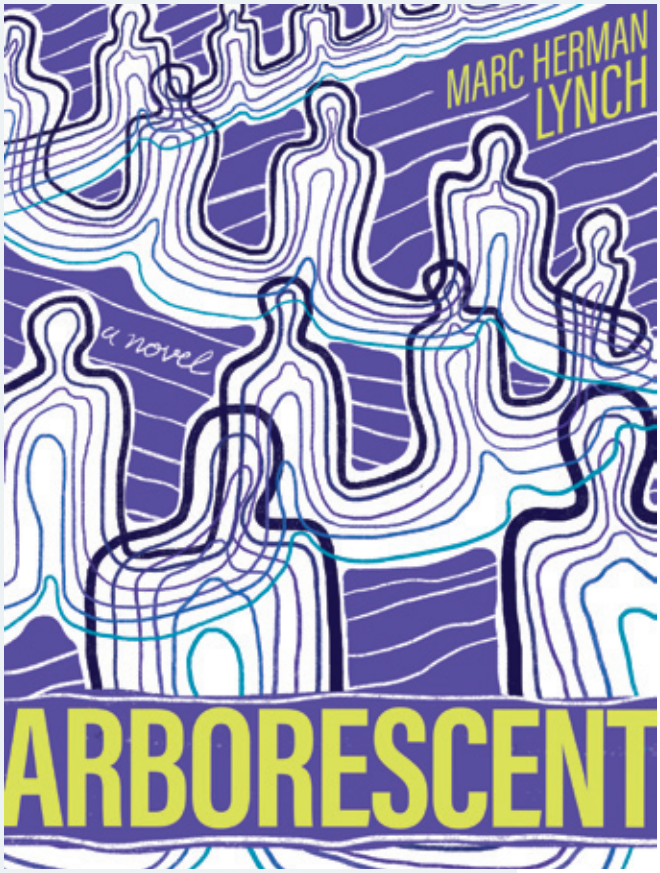
FICTION
FIC049000 / FIC044000 / FIC018000 / FIC019000
PUB MONTH: OCTOBER (USA: NOVEMBER)

NEW RELEASE

# Arborescent

**MARC HERMAN LYNCH**




**MARC HERMAN LYNCH** is a first-generation French Chinese immigrant. He has an MA from the University of Calgary and is the president of *filling Station* magazine. *Arborescent* is his first novel. He lives in Calgary.

## Ghosts, doppelgängers, and a man who turns into a tree: a startling fiction debut that strives to articulate the immigrant body.

In the beltline of a run-of-the-mill Canadian metropolis, an apartment complex called Cambrian Court has become the focal point of an outlandish unfurling, where even the laws of physics are becoming questioned. Embroiled within this psychic plot are three neighbours who are strangers to one another—Nohlan Buckles, Hachiko Yoshimoto, and Zadie Chan—and whose ordinary lives have become rife with bizarre antagonists: an ogreish landlord, an ominous hooded group called the selfies, and a donkey-faced Saint Peter.

The deeper they are drawn into this otherworld, the more reality becomes suspect: Nohlan is convinced he's turning into a tree, Hachiko's staging of a kabuki shockingly comes to life, and Zadie unwittingly begins to produce doppelgängers. Without even knowing each other, they come to realize just how dependent and intertwined their lives truly are.

In Marc Herman Lynch's debut novel, some people explode, and others are resuscitated, but at the heart of it all are the fleeting yet indelible connections we make with one another. Darkly funny, lyrically charged, and gothically absurd, *Arborescent* is a raw and brilliantly imagined depiction of the unmaking of our contemporary world.

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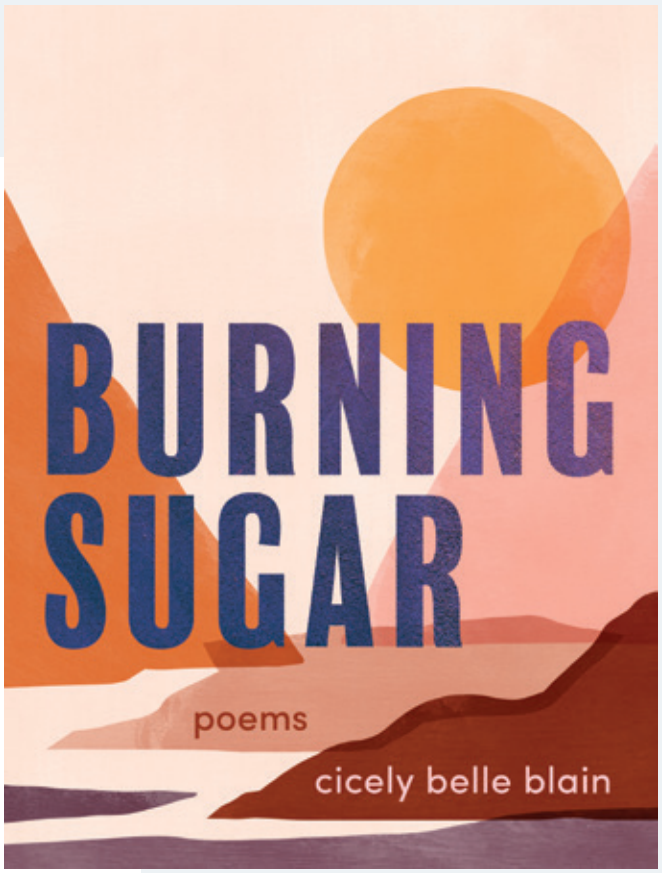
NEW RELEASE

# Burning Sugar

## CICELY BELLE BLAIN




**The latest from Vivek Shraya's VS. Books: a poetic exploration of Black identity, history, and lived experience influenced by the constant search for liberation.**

In this incendiary debut collection, activist and poet Cicely Belle Blain intimately revisits familiar spaces in geography, in the arts, and in personal history to expose the legacy of colonization and its impact on Black bodies. They use poetry to illuminate their activist work: exposing racism, especially anti-Blackness, and helping people see the connections between history and systemic oppression that show up in every human interaction, space, and community. Their poems demonstrate how the world is both beautiful and cruel, a truth that inspires overwhelming anger and awe—all of which spills out onto the page to tell the story of a challenging, complex, nuanced, and joyful life.

In *Burning Sugar*, verse and epistolary, racism and resilience, pain and precarity are flawlessly sewn together by the mighty hands of a Black, queer femme.

This book is the second title to be published under the VS. Books imprint, a series curated and edited by writer-musician Vivek Shraya, featuring work by new and emerging Indigenous or Black writers, or writers of colour.

**CICELY BELLE BLAIN** is the CEO of a social justice–informed diversity and inclusion consulting company with more than 100 clients worldwide. They are the founder of Black Lives Matter Vancouver and one of 150 Black women and non-binary people making change across Canada. Cicely Belle is an instructor in executive leadership at Simon Fraser University. *Burning Sugar* is their first book.

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POETRY
POE005050 / POE021000 / POE024000 / POE011000
PUB MONTH: SEPTEMBER

NEW RELEASE

# Render

**SACHIKO MURAKAMI**

**SACHIKO MURAKAMI** is the author of three previous poetry collections, including *The Invisibility Exhibit* (shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Award). As a literary worker, she has edited poetry, worked for trade organizations, hosted reading series, organized conferences, sat on juries, and judged prizes.
***sachikomurakami.com***

**Searing, intimate poems that render a history of trauma, addiction, and recovery through dreams and waking experience.**

*Render (v.tr.): to submit, as for consideration; to give or make available; to give what is due or owed; to give in return, or retribution; to surrender; to yield. To represent; to perform an interpretation of; to arrange. To express in another language or form; to translate. To deliver or pronounce formally; to cause to become; to reduce, convert, or melt down, by heating.*

A recovery narrative has a known form: what it was like, what happened, and what it's like today. In a poem, what can be arranged or interpreted with such certainty, by whom, and to what end? What is the relationship of the performance of recovery via a poem to the truth of the experience? Does one deliver the other? Insert into these considerations the experience of traumas. How is trauma converted by post-trauma experiences? What is the retribution of that experience when articulated as poetry? Enter these questions through the dream, with its unrenderable subjects, landscapes, and plots. Where do dreams meet poetry in their spontaneous, opaque, necessary structures? What do such comparisons yield to the waking reader? What can be rendered intelligible in the soup of long-term recovery?

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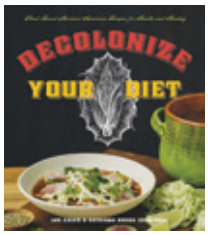


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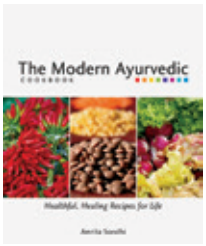


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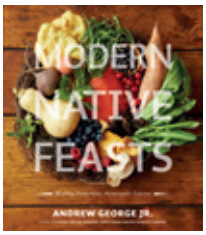


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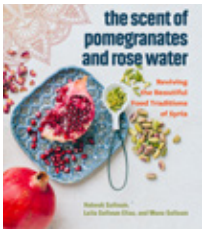


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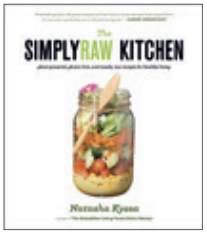


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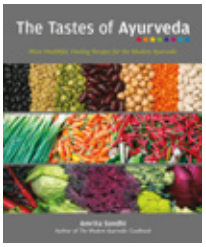


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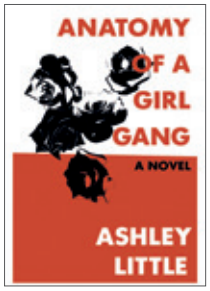


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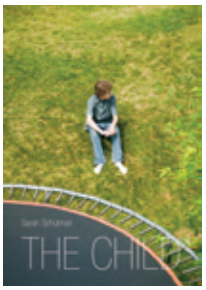

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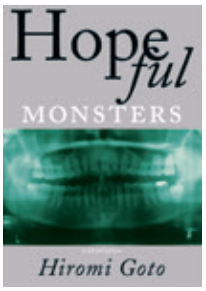


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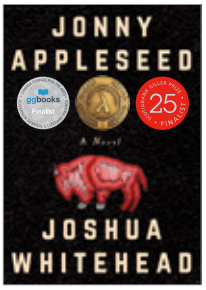


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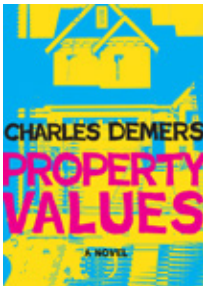


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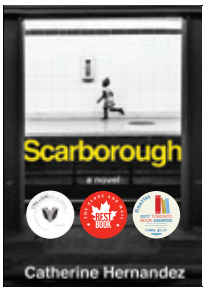


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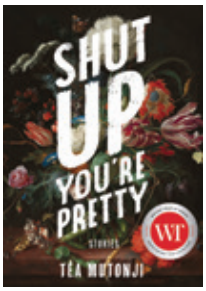


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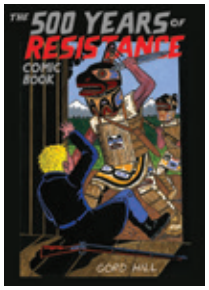


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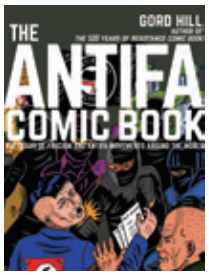


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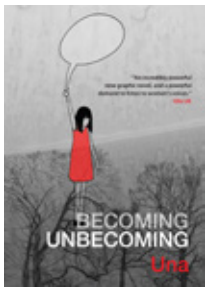


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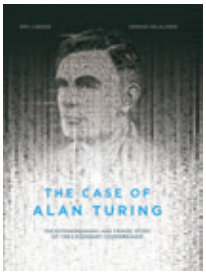


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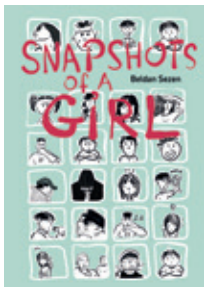


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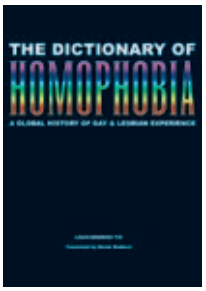


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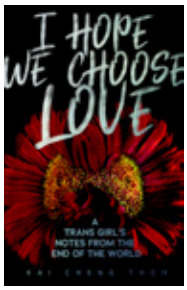


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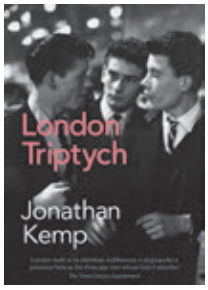


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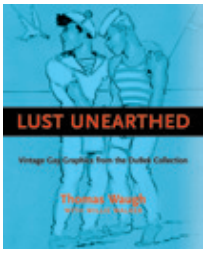


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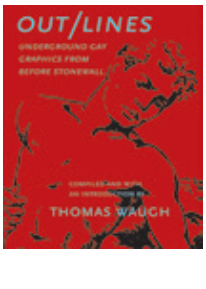


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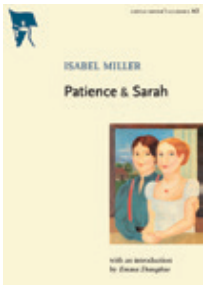


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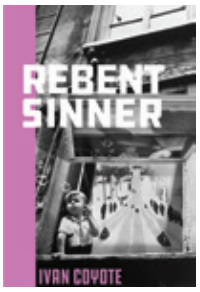


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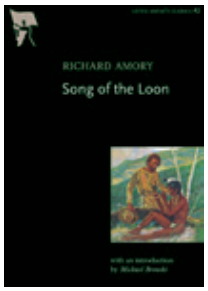


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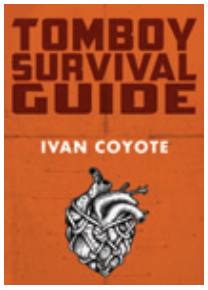


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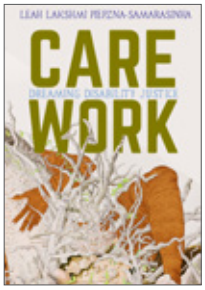


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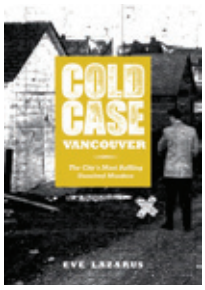


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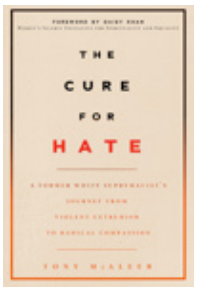


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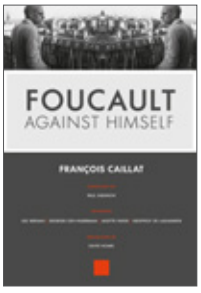


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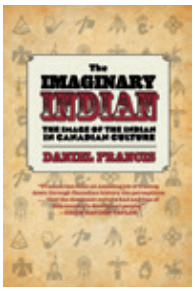


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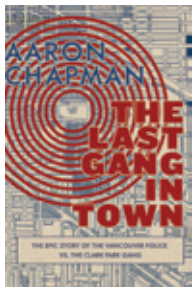


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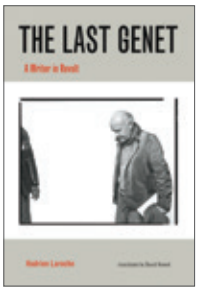


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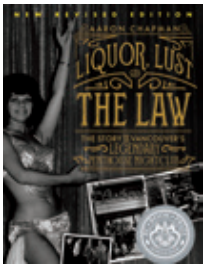


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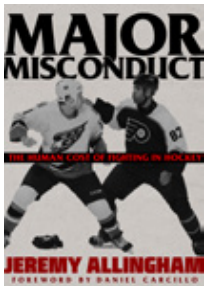


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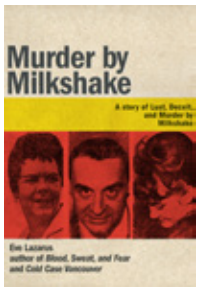


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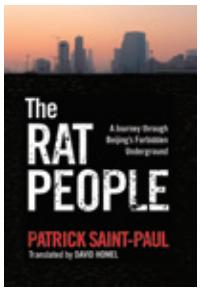


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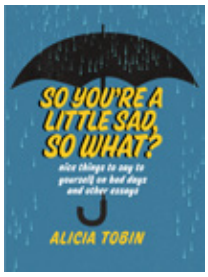


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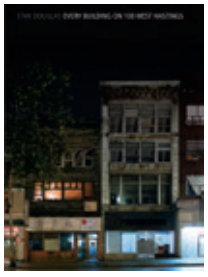

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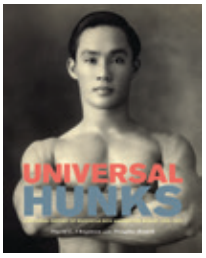


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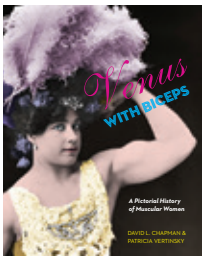


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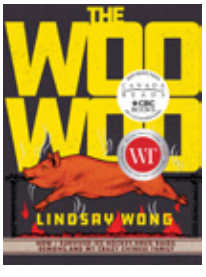


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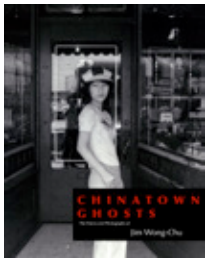


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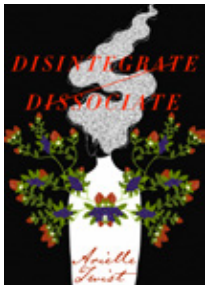


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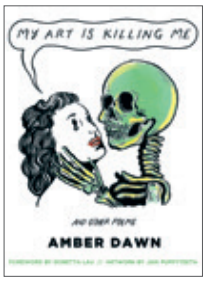


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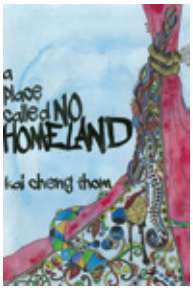


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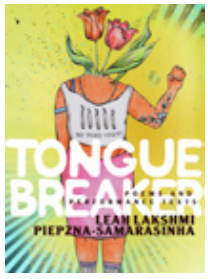


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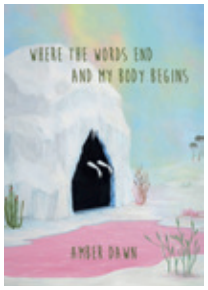


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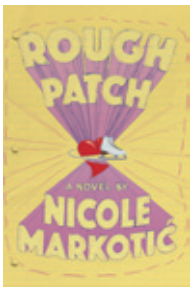


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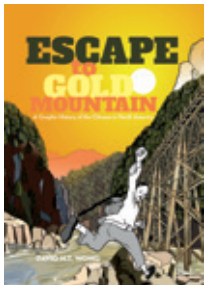


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